

WOCS Class 07-001

Volume I, Issue I

4August 2007

Meet the Candidates:

- WOC Kenneth Boyer (940A)
- WOC MikeCoppock (250N)
- WOC Elsa Gipson (420A)
- WOC Elaine Hudson (940A)
- WOC Stephanie Mann
- WOC Dorian Snell (420A)
- WOC Jay Tombre (140A)

Meet the TAC:

- CW2 Shelly Biller (251A)
(the Teacher, the Advisor AND
the Counselor!)

....And then there were six

Colorado hosted its first-in-history Warrant Officer Candidate School class, Class 07-001. It all started with Phase I. Candidates were expected to complete the distance learning (DL) phase I course before arriving at the 168th RTI WOCS class for their “resident phase I”. During the DL phase I, the candidates were given instruction and were tested on subjects such as the WOC SOP standards, AR670-1, land navigation and communication skills.



Candidates Gipson and Hudson use teamwork to pre-



Class orientation by the Senior TAC.

Once the DL phase was completed, the resident phase I course could commence. And commence it did, on 21 October 2006. The candidates were placed into an environment where there was stress, although many times self-inflicted, time management,

Physically Tough

Throughout this course, the candidates were promised that their bodies would be challenged. That promise was fulfilled time and time again. Each time that it was, the candidates were able to answer back in victorious unison. Some-

times it would sound more like agonizing pleas for mercy, but in unison nonetheless. But, from the deepest, darkest pits of pain you'll hear the candidates cry out, “I'll lunge!”.



The candidates' first experience with TAC “assisted” rifle drills.

Combat Lifesaver Course

One of the most important duties that you can perform in combat is



"What do you want me to do with this???"

taking the steps necessary to save another life. It has become more and more necessary to have combat lifesavers in the field and this means that there are never too

many. Warrant Officers are no exception, so Ms. Biller had the insight to schedule a Combat Lifesaver course during Phase I.

Some of the candidates learned and tried something new, for some it was a refresher, for others it was an opportunity to conquer



It's all downhill from here!

fears. Yes, IV day is never easy for anyone!



"Is it supposed to bleed this much?"

What doesn't kill us only makes us stronger, right?



Stencil Party!!!

As we all know from the Center for Army Lessons Learned (CALL), the top three hazards in the war in Iraq have been IEDs, suicide bombers and mismatched un-



derwear. Therefore, we present to you the stencil party!

December's drill consisted of good food, visiting with unit members, desserts and, of course, mind numbing, tedious underwear stenciling. Somehow we got through it mostly unscathed. Some of us had our issues with black liquids, which did not stop there.

....And then there were seven! Welcome WOC Snell!

WOC Dorian Snell joined us for our January 2007 drill. He had some catching up to do



Mentally Tough

WOCS demanded the candidates to maintain situational awareness and prioritize effectively, while maintaining the ability to retain information for testing and practical purposes.

Classes were informational and fast-paced, which could prove challenging when also thinking about when you are going to grab ten minutes to finish a necessary memorandum or essay.



Candidates pay very close attention to detail during class.



Candidates spend their "breaks" catching up on additional duties.



Land Navigation

January drill involved a Land Navigation field exercise. The candidates endured grueling classroom training and freezing temperatures while successfully navigating a land navigation course on Fort Carson.



Candidates prepare to go after their first point

After enduring these conditions, overcoming physical, as well as mental, obstacles and learning from mistakes, the candidates left the course with a new feeling of confidence.

*"Lost One, this is Lost
Three....are you lost, too, over?"*

Vehicle Convoy Operations Trainer (VCOT)

Also in January, the candidates got a taste of convoy operations. For most, this was their first experience. It is fair to say that it proved to be more difficult than most would have anticipated.



Phase II

Due to the prep time afforded by the candidates' resident Phase I, class 07-001 hit the ground running in Phase II.

February drill consisted of classes such as "heritage of the Army Warrant Officer", "joint ethics" and "cultural awareness", among others. From these classes, the candidates learned about important terms such as "spontaneous manifestation".



The first official block of instruction for class 07-001.

Candidates could be heard down the hall sounding off proudly with "...spontaneous combustion, sir!"



Enter the Crocs!

"Croc-Man", "Crocodile Dundee" and "Crocolicious" are just a few of the names that Candidate Dorian Snell may have heard during his first drill after some practice road marching at home.



Candidate Snell showcasing the new Army Urban Footwear (AUF).

.....And MORE Rifle Drills.....

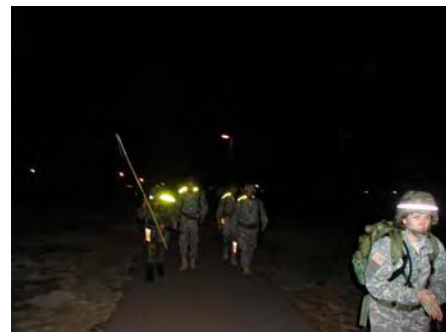
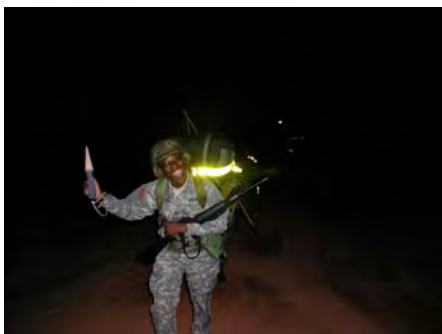
Rifle drills didn't stop because Phase I was over. Fortunately, bad weather can still lead to good PT. The weather forced class 07-001 to move their PT formation indoors where, luckily, there are walls to add to the discomfort of rifle drills!



Road March Warm-Up

The candidates must complete a 6.2 mile road march, while carrying 40 pounds, to pass the course. To prepare for this, the class started with a 2-mile road march. This was accomplished during the March drill.

The “warm-up” road march was meant to give the TAC and the candidates a good idea as to where they stood physically.



March—The First Test

Everyone breathed a sigh of relief when it was realized that the whole class had passed the first exam!



CW5 Blincoe facilitates a block of instruction for the class.

Record APFT

Another hurdle to cross in the pursuit of course completion is the record APFT. Each candidate must pass the Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) to pass the course.



Class 07-001 accomplished this with a 100% GO!

Hanging of the Hat Ceremony

One of the many customs in the Warrant Officer Candidate School is the “Hanging of the Hat” ceremony. This ceremony is a “rights-of-passage” into the dining facility.

Before the ceremony can even take place, signs must be designed, approved and created. A song and cadence must also be created, approved and practiced.

Class 07-001 was no exception and, after much practice, performed the ceremony without



flaw. The CCWO, CW5 Blincoe, rewarded the class with “talking pig rights with dessert for the rest of our careers”. Little did we know that this would only last until the beginning of Phase III, where ALL rights would be quickly removed!

The Hanging of the Hat ceremony was followed by the Sign Presentation ceremony. This is where the class sign was unveiled for the command.

Karaoke Anyone?

The Senior TAC, CW2 Shelly Biller, is a good sport when she sings some karaoke with Candidate Hudson during the Christmas meal



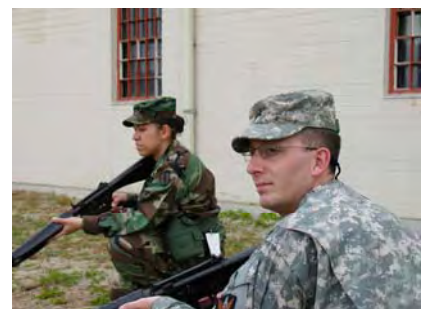
Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills

The candidates practiced their WT&BD tirelessly and to near...er....uh....perfection?

- React to an IED
- React to near ambush
- React to far ambush
- React to direct fire
- React to indirect fire....

....just to name a few.

This “IED” proved elusive to the class.

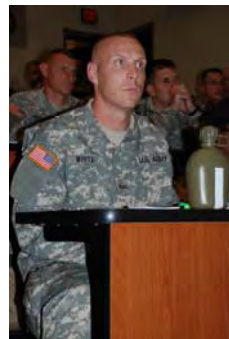


Phase III at Camp Atterbury, IN

The class traveled to Camp Atterbury, IN on 20 July 2007. After a late arrival on Day Zero, we got "settled in" by throwing everything we owned into some semblance of order, received our additional duties and took charge of leadership positions....all in about 1 1/2 hours. Phew!

Phase III consisted of challenging PT in the morning, long days in the classroom and not enough time in the evening to study, perform corrective actions (essays and memos) and ensure that all duties are performed to standard. We also had five fun-filled days in the field at the "FOB". There was never a dull

moment as the class put everything that was learned to the test. It had back-to-back missions testing leadership and tactical skills. They were tested on the Land Navigation course, performed several missions at the MOUT site and were evaluated at the Leadership Reaction Course.



Senior Pinning

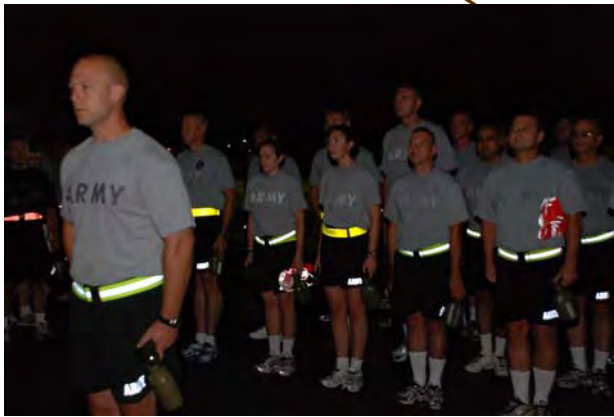
The Senior Pinning was a proud moment for the class. They had worked very hard to become a TEAM, and this represented their success in that. They had shown up as several different states and became a CLASS!



Physical Fitness

PT was a daily event. Sometimes, it occurred multiple times per day....

This is what happens when you lose your keys during PT!



Close Quarters Combat (CQC)

The class tested it's skills at the MOUT site. The candidates moved as 4-5 person teams to seek and destroy the enemy.



FOB and STX Lanes

You can pretty much sum all of this up in two words: ivy and chiggers. There was definitely no lack in either one of them. If you didn't have chiggers, then you had poison ivy or both.

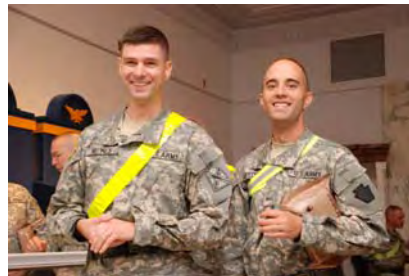
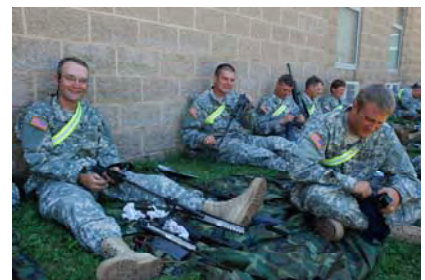


Leadership Reaction Course

The class moved through obstacles to test their leadership skills, as well as physical agility and flexibility!

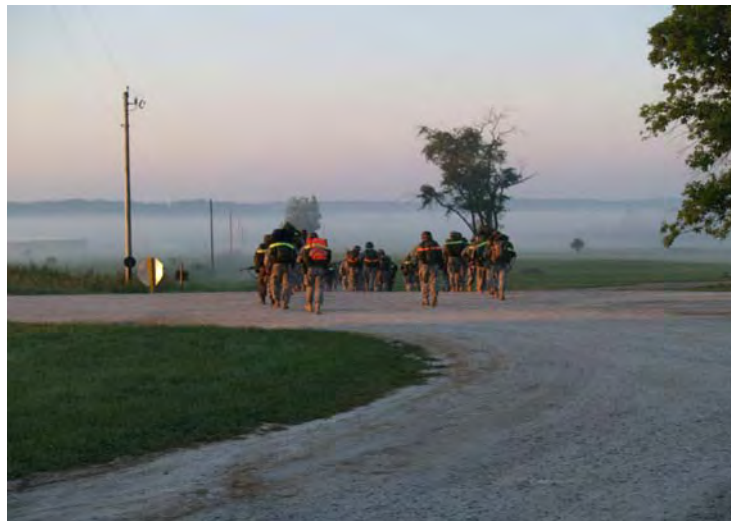


Faces of Phase III



6.2 Mile Road March

The morning was a welcoming and unusual cool when the road march commenced. This was it...the march to graduation. The candidates had one more thing to do. One more test to complete.



Reception Party

The reception night was a time to get re-acquainted with family and friends and to recognize the accomplishments of some of the candidates. The oldest and youngest candidates as well as the recipient of the leadership award are recognized.



GRADUATION!!!

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of up-

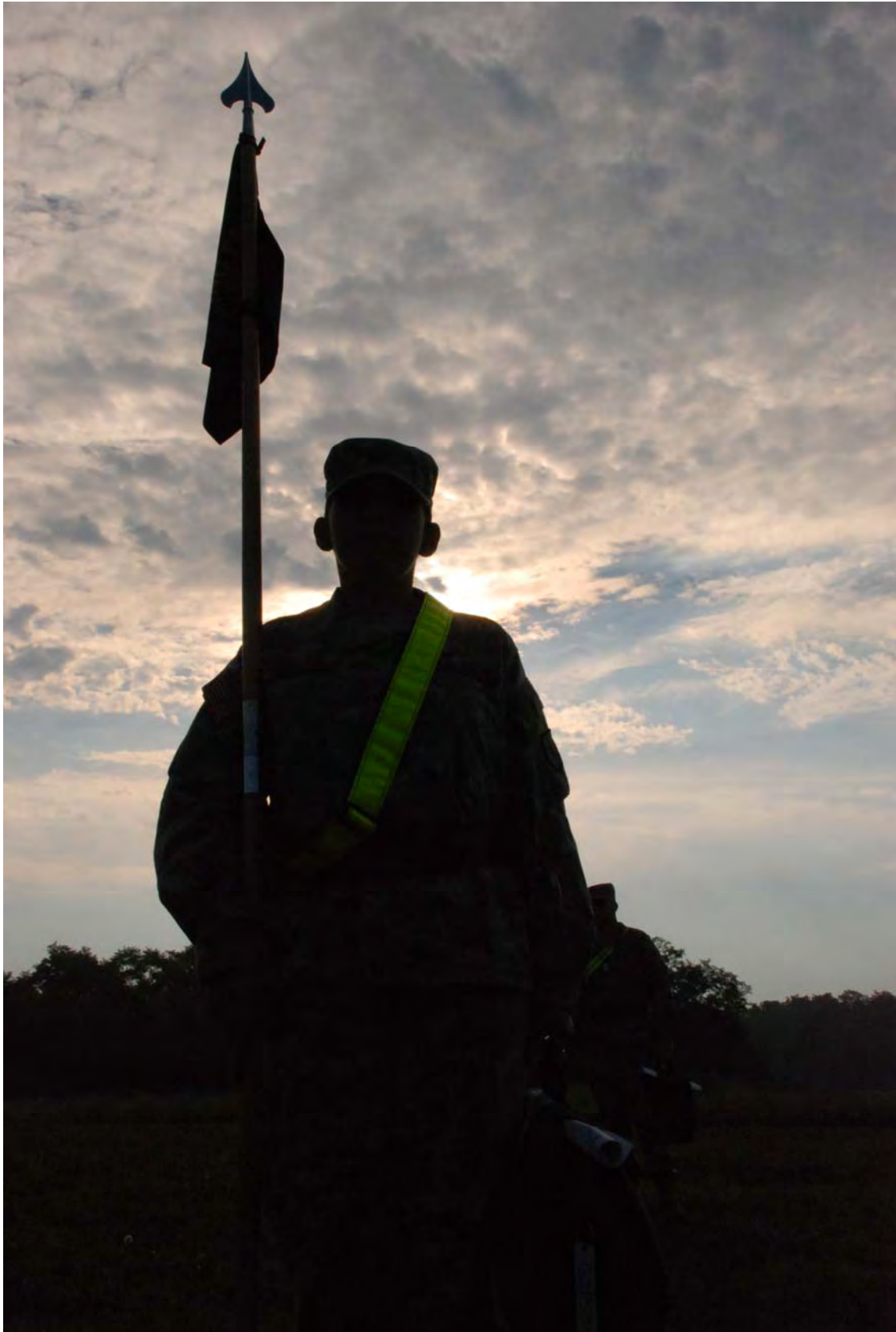


Graduation, cont...









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It is what it is



This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.

....and that's the way we became Ms. Biller's Bunch!